



DK-US045032

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3749

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Norio MAEDA et al.

Serial No. 09/889,484

Filed: December 20, 2001

For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR DRYING
SUBSTRATE

Patent Art Unit: 3749

Examiner: Pamela Anne Wilson

PETITION FOR ACCEPTANCE OF
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENTAssistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants bring the attached references to the Examiner's attention and request that they be considered and made of record in this application. Also attached is a completed PTO-1449 form. The undersigned believes that this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is being filed after the mailing of a first Office action on the merits, but before the mailing of a final action, a notice of allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

Applicants hereby petition that this IDS be entered into the above-identified application and considered by the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application. Enclosed is a check for \$180.00 to cover the petition fee of 37 CFR § 1.17(p). *No other fees are believed to be due for this Information Disclosure Statement.* However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1836. A duplicate copy of this Statement is enclosed for that purpose.

If there are any questions regarding this Petition and/or this Information Disclosure Statement, please contact the undersigned.

03/26/2004 LWONDIM1 00000056 09889484

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1233 Twentieth Street, NW, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202)-293-0444Dated: March 25, 2004

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Respectfully submitted,

Thomas A. Morrison
Reg. No. 46,104

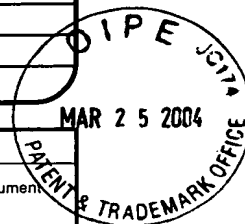
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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO <h2 style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;">INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</h2> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;"><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p>				Complete if Known <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Application Number</td> <td>09/889,484</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Filing Date</td> <td>December 20, 2001</td> </tr> <tr> <td>First Named Inventor</td> <td>Norio MAEDA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Group Art Unit</td> <td>3749</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examiner Name</td> <td>Pamela Anne Wilson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attorney Docket Number</td> <td>DK-US045032</td> </tr> </table>		Application Number	09/889,484	Filing Date	December 20, 2001	First Named Inventor	Norio MAEDA	Group Art Unit	3749	Examiner Name	Pamela Anne Wilson	Attorney Docket Number	DK-US045032
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Sheet	1	of	1														



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials *	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code (if known)		
		4,984,597		McConnell et al.	01-1991

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-YYYY	Translation (Yes or No or N/A)
		Office	Number	Kind Code (if known)			
		JP	6-103686		CFM Technologies, Incorporated	12-1994	Yes

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office,